

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A composition comprising a complementary pair of siRNA oligomeric compounds consisting of:
 - a first oligomeric compound and a second oligomeric compound, wherein:
 - the first oligomeric compound and the second oligomeric compound are not covalently linked to each other;
 - at least a portion of the first oligomeric compound is complementary to at least a portion of the second oligomeric compound and to a target nucleic acid; and
 - ~~the first oligomeric compound comprises a steroid attached to the 3' terminal monomeric subunit of the oligomeric compound and the second oligomeric compound comprises a steroid attached to the 5' terminal monomeric subunit of the oligomeric compound at least one of the first and second oligomeric compound comprises a conjugate group.~~
- 2-3. (canceled)
4. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein each of the first and second oligomeric compounds comprises ~~10 to 40~~ 17 to 25 nucleotides.
- 5-8. (canceled)
9. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the second oligomeric compound comprises an oligonucleotide having a plurality of ribose nucleotide units.
- 10-100. (canceled)
101. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the composition of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

102-109. (canceled)

110. (new) The composition of claim 1 wherein the first oligomeric compound comprises
a 5' region comprising 2'-OCH₃ modified nucleosides;
a central region comprising β-D-ribonucleosides; and
a 3' region comprising 2'-OCH₃ modified nucleosides.

111. (new) The composition of claim 110 wherein the nucleosides in the 5' and 3' regions are joined by phosphorothioate linkages.

112. (new) The composition of claim 111 wherein the nucleosides in the central region are joined by phosphorothioate linkages.

113. (new) The composition of claim 1 wherein the second oligomeric compound comprises
a 5' region comprising nucleosides joined by phosphorothioate linkages;
a central region comprising β-D-ribonucleosides; and
a 3' region comprising nucleosides joined by phosphorothioate linkages.

114. (new) The composition of claim 113 wherein the 5' and 3' regions each independently comprise 2'-OCH₃ modified nucleosides.